

**THE LOST.**

**IN A CONVENT AND ORPHANAGE.**

**PERSONS SERIOUSLY INJURED.**

**Missing, But Neither of These Believed to Have Perished—Holism of the Sisters and Some of Older Children.**

BARKILL, N. Y., August 28.—A fire broke out at 1 o'clock this morning ending nine of the ten buildings of St. Ann's Convent and Orphanage, entailing a loss of \$150,000, and causing the death of several persons.

The dead are: Helen Brown, aged 6; Anna Macklin, aged 7; "Jane," a pensioner, aged 70; Mary Kate McCarthy, aged 28.

The missing are Theresa Murphy, aged and Mary Brown.

Sister Sienna, seriously injured, was taken to the hospital and collapsed; Sister Marie, burns excruciating; Sister Bertram, concussion of spine, and shock; Sister Kathleen arm broken; Hanna Shea, leg broken.

Fifty-five inmates were injured by jumps, and burns, though not severely. The fact that more lives were lost is due to the holism of the sisters and some of the older inmates. When the fire broke out, the 400 inmates of the institution were asleep. Many of them were gotten out, but a few risked their lives to save others. They were finally forced to jump from the roof or make their way down the stairs through the flames and smoke. The fire was directed in the lavatory, and soon spread to the adjoining buildings, attacking first the dormitory in which 299 of the older girls slept.

**VALUE OF FIRE DRILL.**

An excellent fire-drill enabled them to escape. By that time the second dormitory where the smaller boys slept, was saved. The older lads made a dash for the building, and were seen carrying the children ones out.

Dozen Sisters were cut off in the upper stories of the convent building. They were forced to the windows, and while they climbed out to the sills others knelt and recited in prayer. Engineers poured a lot of water against the wall and caused it to crack down. Six were forced to jump for their lives, and ultimately all but Sister Bertram escaped without serious injury. The escape sister Agnes seemed almost a miracle. She was off on the fourth floor, and rather than jump from her window she plunged into the furnace that had been a stairway. She climbed over the sill, and then, seeing the shutter, she jumped clear of the building. She struck the ground and squarely upon her feet and was cured.

The fire reached the girls' dormitory but once it took hold of the building it burned fiercely. Most of the girls on the upper floors were missing. The rest thought that they were got out.

**A BOY'S BRAVE DEED.**

Shortly after the last of the rescuers the second dormitory there was a cutting of heads, and the discoverer was a small number of the boys. One of the boys, a 15-year-old boy, made light for the door, paying no heed to warnings of danger. A minute later Cody was dashing out of the building, carrying under each arm one of the missing girls.

The Sisters and children were conveyed means of teams to the Blauevelt Convent.

As far as known, but one person actually perished in the fire itself. That was an old pensioner, aged 70, who was asleep in the servants' quarters. Helen Brown and Emma Macklin died of convulsions that resulted from the shock of the accident and had organic heart trouble. She was badly frightened and died later in the day.

It is believed Theresa Murphy and Mary Brown both escaped from the burning building, became demoralized and are leading the other girl through the woods. There were 326 children in the orphanage, sixty of whom were girls, and their ages ranged from 2 to 16 years.

**Why Not Colored Soldiers?**

(Charleston News and Courier.)

Appears from your Washington special correspondent's story what is above stated is to be pressed on President McKinley, and that one Colonel Bryan, Federal volunteer of the civil war, living in Jacksonville, Fla., is in London with a view to securing the formation of at least one negro regiment from the South. The President has never fought shy of enlisting any negro soldier in his new army, and it appears that he there are very good reasons why he should continue to follow the same policy.

We do not undertake to dispute the accuracy of the statement made that a number of negro regiments could easily be raised in the South. We believe this true. The negroes are restless race, and small number of their young and brave men are criminal tramps. Service the army would give them better clothes, better food, and better pay than they are likely to get in any other way. It is probable that the larger number of them would be from this class. Of course there are among the better educated and the more well-to-do negroes who are struck by the glamour of military glory in Cuba, and who are willing to fight, and if need be to die for the honor of their country. But in our opinion the more of the better class of negroes enlisted in the new army, the less it would be for the sections from which the regiments are raised, especially in the South. The criminal tramps and doubtful soldiers would be the cause of desertion and libelism of the Manila campaign, but we could control them the same means that we control them now. With the educated, intelligent, honest colored soldier it would be different. Having gone out to fight for his country, he would be glad to be sent back home, and he would be willing, as soon as he came home, to be relegated to the rear and resume a useful occupation. He would be a patriot and hero, and with what could be refused him, he would be glad to go North amid the great hive of laborers, many of them no better than the better thought of than the negro themselves, a few ex-negro soldiers would give no trouble. At the South he would be quite another matter. His familiarity with arms and military methods, in the exaggerated ideas of his own importance, and with plans to enable them to live in idleness, returned negro soldiers would be a perpetual menace to peace and stability. The President must have negro soldiers we hope he will raise them at the North, and if he does enlist any at the South, may it be with the promise of a horse and a mule in Louisiana, and a distinct understanding that no negro soldier is ever to return to this country.

**One Regiment of Negroes.**

HARRINGTON, August 28.—Adjutant-General Corbin said today that the only chance of the army now under consideration for the North is the great hive of laborers, many of them no better than the better thought of than the negro themselves, a few ex-negro soldiers would give no trouble. At the South he would be quite another matter. His familiarity with arms and military methods, in the exaggerated ideas of his own importance, and with plans to enable them to live in idleness, returned negro soldiers would be a perpetual menace to peace and stability. The President must have negro soldiers we hope he will raise them at the North, and if he does enlist any at the South, may it be with the promise of a horse and a mule in Louisiana, and a distinct understanding that no negro soldier is ever to return to this country.